

**POPULATION SUBGROUP ANALYSIS #2
TENNESSEE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY,
1993**

**Special Risk Factors in Females and Males
for Alcohol and Other Drug Use, Abuse, and Problems**

by The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Community Health Research Group
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Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to determine particular characteristics and risks for alcohol and other drug use (AOD) use and abuse associated with females (especially in the prime childbearing ages) and males in Tennessee. This comparison uses data from the Tennessee Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Needs Assessment Survey, a random digit dial telephone survey of 8000 adults ages 18 and over conducted by the University of Tennessee Knoxville Community Health Research Group (UTK CHRG) in 1993.

Women comprise 64% of the adult sample. They differ from men on nearly all sociodemographic, health status, access and utilization, AOD prevalence, and treatment measures, based on bivariate analyses using difference of proportions and means tests.

The findings have important implications for the special needs of both women and men in relation to AOD treatment and prevention in Tennessee. Pinpointing some of the gender differences will aid in profiling both groups, in assessing differences in their need for AOD treatment and prevention services, and in planning, developing, and evaluating programs to meet those needs.

Variables according to which the groups are compared include:

- 1) socioeconomic status (SES)
- 2) health status, disability, health care utilization and treatment access issues (HS/U)
- 3) levels and patterns of use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (AOD)
- 4) problems related to AOD consumption (AOD)
- 5) need for and receipt of treatment and gaps in treatment (RX)
- 6) social context of drinking alcohol (O), and
- 7) knowledge of and attitudes to AOD (O).